



**U. S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
7450 Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia 22153**



PRESS RELEASE

For Release: Immediately

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**Wild Fires In the West Endanger the Lives of
Thousands of Wild Horses and Burros**

The Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management will hold a Wild Horse and Burro care and training seminar and adoption of wild horses and burros, including some that have been recently rescued off the burning western rangelands, on August 19 & 20 at the Cross Plains Adoption Center in Tennessee. During this weekend, horse and burro lovers will have the opportunity to attend an informative seminar to learn how to care for wild horses and burros, and have the chance to adopt one of these legendary animals.

Wild fires are ravaging the western lands of the United States and are destroying the natural habitat where these wild horses and burros live and eat. This is an enormous threat to the health and longevity of these animals and has forced many to flee to areas of the rangelands already overpopulated by wild horses and burros.

Approximately 100 animals gathered from the western rangeland will be available for adoption starting Saturday morning and ending Sunday evening. People who meet the adoption requirements will have the chance to take home a wild horse or burro that very day! Animals are \$125 each with a limit of four animals per location. Young mares with foals, studs, and burros in a wide variety of colors and conformation will be available for selection.

A certified veterinarian and trainer will be on hand to instruct you in the proper care of your animal and to demonstrate gentling techniques. They will be available both days to answer any questions you may have.

To qualify, adopters must have a 12 x 12 foot shelter and a 20 x 20 foot corral that has sturdy fencing constructed of pole, pipe, or plank boards. The fencing must be at least 6 feet high for horses and 5 feet high for burros or yearling horses. You must also provide a solidly-constructed stock type trailer with a covered top and side-swinging back gates. Drop ramps and divided two-horse trailers are not acceptable. Also, you are expected to provide your own halters and lead ropes.

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Anyone interested in taking home a Living Legend is invited to the Cross Plains Adoption Center to learn more about caring for wild horses and burros. You may be able to adopt that very day and help to save an animal's life. Admission to the Center and all the seminars is free! The Cross Plains Adoption Center is located approximately 35 miles north of Nashville, Tennessee. For more information, please call **1-800-370-3936** or visit our website at www.blm.gov/whb/crossplains.html

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